

**SPEAKER WITHEM:** No amendments on the bill. Senator Hall.

**SENATOR HALL:** Thank you, Mr. President and members. I rise in support of the motion to advance LB 1243 to E & R Initial. The bill deals with the substantive issue of allowing members in their private offices to have telephones, telefaxes for purposes, and a telephone line for purposes of private use that would be paid for by private funds. Right now, we only have the ability to have a private line if it is used for purposes of campaign purposes and then paid for by campaign funds. Over the last year, I had a number of members who some of them and many of them new to the body who said you mean I can't install a fax machine that would allow me to communicate with my business and I said, no, you can't. Now you can install one for campaign purposes but you can't install one that would allow you to transact personal business on it. What this would allow the Exec Board to do is to adopt a policy that would say it would be the policy of the Legislature to allow for telephone, telephone line, and/or a telefax machine in a member's personal office to be used for personal business as long as it was paid for by personal funds. We currently don't have the ability to do that. Again, I, myself, don't have any need for it but it, again, rises out of the number of requests I have had and, frankly, some members were rather surprised that they wouldn't have the ability to do it, they could pay for it out of their own pocket. So all this would do is allow for us to then implement that policy through the Exec Board and allow for that to take place. So I would urge the advancement of the bill to E & R Initial and would respond to any questions anyone might have.

**SPEAKER WITHEM:** Thank you, Senator Hall. Discussion, Senator Landis.

**SENATOR LANDIS:** Thank you. I rise to support Senator Hall in this measure. I have also felt myself caught by the Catch-22 of not being able to use a phone line for a private call, and yet not having a chance to have one installed so that I could overcome that disincentive. Because I am here in Lincoln, I come to the Capitol all the time, and there are times when I need to contact, for example, Doane College in Crete. It would have been very helpful to have a phone of my own and then not have any risk of using a phone for an inappropriate purpose. I am glad that we are now getting around to passing the measure and it will stop that Catch-22 that we have had for a number of